N. E. corner 4th & Arch St. Phila

Jan 10th. 1854.

Wm Lloyd Garrison Esq.

Dear Sir,

I had arranged to furnish
7
you with the particulars of the late debate on the
Inspiration of the Bible, lately held in this City
between Joseph Barker of Ohio, & Wm L McCalla
Presbyterian Minister residing here, but in consequence
of a subsequent arrangement for another & more
important discussion between the first named and
Jos. H. Berg. D.D. a prominent man in the Church
I thought the latter would be more acceptable.

I therefore enclose a report of the first nights meeting
taken from the Daily Register, which was collected
from notes taken by Wm Binney the Editor & myself
You will perceive the importance of this movement
when I state that upwards of twenty five hundred
people must have been present, the Hall being capable
of seating nearly that number, I may state with
respect to the relative position of the Speakers, Mr Barker
commencing although on the negative, that this took
place, because Dr Bergs committee & himself insisted
this should be the case, although contrary to all rules of
logic or argument, further that Dr Bergs reply, which

You will perceive refers not directly to Mr Barkers statements, being a written production previously prepared, and the impression has been made at this as well as at former meeting, that the objections cannot be removed, there is great consolation in this evidence of progression in religious matters, because of the fact that all true sentiments & principles are bound up together, one cannot increase without in some degree benefitting all the rest, with full hope & sympathy in your work, and a helping hand & willing heart

I am Dear Sir

very truly yours.

Thos Curtis.